Interagency Wildfire Management Team
Meeting Notes
December 4, 2002

Note: The next meeting will be on December 18, 2002. The first meeting in 2003 will be held on January 15. The meetings will continue to be held at 9:30 in the RRES-ECO Conference Room.

Robbie Stibbard (Los Alamos County Fire Department) reported that thinning of 157 acres of forest in Bayo Canyon has begun. Thinning to create defensible space around buildings in the Los Alamos townsite is also being conducted.

Amanda Kuenzi (Fire Effects Team, Bandelier National Monument) is designing a method to evaluate the amount of soil heating that will occur during the burning of slash piles. The slash piles will be created as part of the thinning along Highway 4.

Jim Whittington (Bandelier National Monument) added that approximately 5000 slash piles will be created during the thinning along Highway 4. The air quality permit for burning these piles has been applied for.

Randy Balice (Ecology Group, LANL) reported that the final land cover map to support fuels modeling has been produced and is being assessed for its accuracy. Randy also reported from the RRES Division newsletter that the Volunteer Task Force is creating 200,000 seed balls for revegetation efforts that will be conducted in areas burned by the Cerro Grande Fire.

The next IWMT meeting will be at 9:30 AM on Wednesday, December 18, at TA-21, Building 210 in the Conference Room (142). The IWMT meets every other week and these meetings are open to the public. Contact Randy Balice (balice@lanl.gov, 665-1270) for further information, or to get on the distribution list for these meeting notes.